



What can I do?

If we all do our part to reduce air pollution, the benefits will be tremendous.

Bike or walk Saves money and is good for your health.

Use public transportation Cuts down on fuel consumption and reduces traffic congestion.

Carpool Saves gas and eliminates tailpipe emissions.

Combine errands into fewer trips Go with a friend, do errands all at once, use shops and services close to home.

Tune-up your car Replace oil and filters and use motor oil labeled "Energy Conserving II" or "EC II."

Gas up at stations with gasoline vapor recovery Using the new nozzles will prevent two million gallons of gasoline from evaporating into the air each year.

Have your vehicle emissions tested on time You can get tested 90 days before your expiration date.

Inflate tires properly Cars with soft tires take up to 5% more energy to operate.

Avoid idling Idling for more than half a minute burns more gas than it takes to restart the engine.

Conserve energy Electricity generation at power plants is a major source of air pollution. Turn off lights, equipment and appliances when not in use. Insulate walls and ceilings.

Buy a new fuel efficient car Increasing fuel efficiency saves gasoline. Less gas equals less pollution. Buy the most fuel efficient, low emission vehicle you can.

Buy less-polluting, energy-efficient goods Such as: lightbulbs, appliances, lawnmowers, garden and construction equipment.



The Connecticut Department of
Environmental Protection,
Bureau of Air Management
is implementing numerous Clean Air Act programs.

For more information or
to learn how you can become involved
please call 1-800-249-1234



Or write:

Connecticut Department of
Environmental Protection
Bureau of Air Management
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106

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Ozone: Connecticut's Worst Air Pollutant



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Does Connecticut have an air pollution problem?

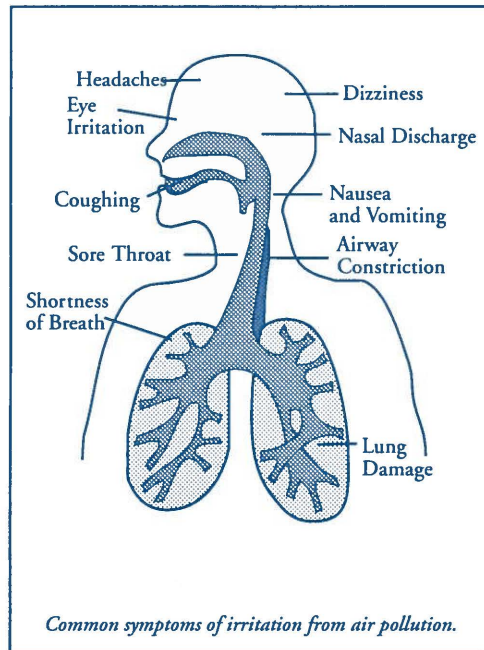
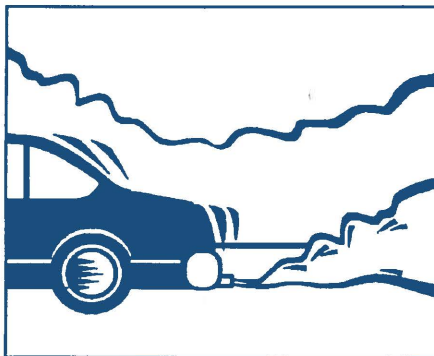
In Connecticut, ground-level ozone is our worst air quality problem. Take one hot summer day, mix in pollutants from evaporation and combustion of fossil fuels, especially from cars, and sprinkle liberally with sunlight. What do you get? Dangerous gases including ground-level ozone, a major component of smog.

Where does ground-level ozone come from?

The pollutants which contribute to ground-level ozone come from many sources. Some are obvious ... like industrial smokestacks, chemical plants, automobiles, trucks, and buses. Others are not ... like gasoline stations, outboard motors, lawn, garden, farm, and construction equipment, paints, and household products.

What is the biggest source of ozone?

Motor vehicles account for nearly half the air pollution in Connecticut and are the single greatest contributor to ground-level ozone. Driving is the most polluting activity we do in our lifetime.



Is air pollution hazardous to my health?

Yes. High levels of air pollution can cause shortness of breath, coughing, wheezing, headaches, nausea, eye and throat irritation, and even permanent lung damage. People who suffer from lung diseases like emphysema, bronchitis, pneumonia, asthma and colds have even more trouble breathing when the air is polluted. This effect is even worse in children and the elderly.

Is all ozone bad for us?

No. Ozone isn't always a villain. Six to thirty miles above the earth's surface stratospheric ozone occurs naturally as a layer which protects us from the sun's harmful ultraviolet rays.

What is being done?

In accordance with the federal 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments, the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection is working hard to reduce air pollution. Some of the programs you will see will be Gasoline Vapor Recovery, Enhanced Inspection and Maintenance, and Small Business Assistance.

Is air pollution damaging our economy?

Yes. The costs of air pollution are staggering. They include the obvious costs of health care, deterioration of buildings and materials, and crop loss. Even more critical, though harder to quantify, is the degradation of our planet's fragile ecosystem. We are all responsible for creating air pollution. Working together we can all breathe easier.

